

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 22-26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Each of the near infrared light sources 16 emits a near infrared light of a wavelength range of approximately ~~[[900]]~~ 700 to 1000 nm having wavelength dependence on both oxidized hemoglobin and deoxidized hemoglobin flowing through a blood vessel (referred to as blood vessel dependence wavelength range, hereinafter).

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 3-6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In this regard, the filter array 22 is different from a general RGB filter array in the point that the “R” pixel filters transmit a light of the blood vessel dependence wavelength range (approximately ~~[[900]]~~ 700 to 1000 nm).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 16 to page 20, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In above-described embodiment, as an emitting means for emitting a plurality of lights whose wavelengths are different from each other to a living body, two kinds of lights, or visible lights and near infrared lights, of a wavelength range of ~~[[900]]~~ 700 to 1000 nm having dependence on a blood vessel being an authentication subject are employed. On the other hand, the present invention is not restricted to this, and there may be employed methods of selecting a plurality of lights whose wavelengths are different from each other according to the application of embodiments to emit thus selected lights to a living body. Specifically, there may be employed a method of injecting markers which have specific properties for a nidus inside a living body and emitting third lights of a wavelength which is different from

those of the visible lights and the near infrared lights and has dependence on the markers, or a method of injecting markers which have specific properties for an authentication subject (inherent structure) inside a living body and emitting lights of a wavelength which is different from that of the visible lights and has dependence on the markers instead of the near infrared lights having dependence on a blood vessel being an authentication subject.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 23 to page 21, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, for example, the filter array 22 whose “R” pixel filters transmit also lights of the blood vessel dependence wavelength range (approximately ~~[[900]]~~ 700 to 1000 nm) is employed. On the other hand, instead of this, a generally used RGB filter may be employed. In this case, even if being a general RGB filter array, “R” pixel filters are not so configured as to cut near infrared lights around a wavelength corresponding to “R” in the strict sense. Thus, the resolution of the blood vessel image data D32 that is obtained by extracting image data corresponding to “R” for each color dispersion unit becomes deteriorated as compared with above-described embodiment, which does not affect the authentication processing result, though. Accordingly, in this case, effects similar to those of above-described embodiment can be obtained. Moreover, as the color dispersion units of the RGB filter array, various kinds may be employed instead of those shown in FIG. 4A.